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Amendment Date: July 21, 2000

Subject: Regional Center for Southern Africa (RCSA)
Request for Applications (RFA) **Number** 690-00-007
Amendment One (1)

The subject RFA is hereby amended as follows. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Cover Letter

Paragraph One: Add additional text as follows:

“An additional \$1M is available from the Regional Center for Southern Africa (RCSA)” to fund transboundary natural resources activities within the Okavango/Chobe/Hwange/Caprivi/Mosi-oa-Tunya/Kafue Area in Southern Africa which will directly affect Zambia and the larger landscape around the Kafue – Mosi-oa-Tunya Parks and the migratory patterns of wildlife and regional tourism development activities. This is an optional activity, to be conducted over a three (3) year period beginning in year 2000. “

Paragraph Two: Delete and replace with the following:

Subject to the availability of funds, USAID anticipates awarding one cooperative agreement as a result of this RFA. USAID intends to provide approximately \$7.5 million in USAID funding for a five-year period for activities within Zambia, and \$1 million for a three year period for transboundary activities funded by the RCSA. The resulting award will be incrementally funded at approximately \$1.5 million per year, subject to the availability of funds.

Section I – Application Format

Sub-Section 2B1, Instructions for Submitting Program Description

Add the following paragraph:

“If the optional regional activities are proposed, include in a separate tab within this section details as to their implementation and results to be achieved. Include similar information as is requested in support of the USAID/Zambia funded activities. The transboundary activities are described in Section III, Program Description, Annex One (1).”

Sub-Section 2B2, Instructions for Submitting Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Add the following sentence:

“If the optional regional activities are proposed, include applicable performance measures within the overall performance monitoring plan.”

Sub-Section 2B3, Instructions for Personnel Information

Add the following sentence:

“If the optional regional transboundary activities are proposed, indicate which individuals would be dedicated full-time (if any) or part time to their implementation.”

Sub-Section 2B4, Organizational Structure/Management Plan

“If the optional regional activities are proposed, include in the organizational structure/management plan the same or similar information as is requested for the USAID/Zambia funded activities.”

Sub-Section 4, “Instructions – Cost Application”

Change heading to read “Sub-Section 3”

Sub-Section B2, “Financial Plan/Budget”

Add the following:

Note: The optional regional activities (\$1M) will be separately funded. If the optional activities are proposed, recipients are requested to include them in a separate budget because the regional activities will constitute a separate line item in the resulting cooperative agreement and will be separately paid. The recipient will be expected to separately track expenditures.

Section II, Selection Criteria

Sub-Section 2, “Technical Evaluation Criteria”

Add the following text to the second sentence in the first paragraph after “a total of **100** points is possible,”:

“plus, an additional ten (10) bonus points are available for the optional regional activities.”

Add the following text to evaluation criteria one (1), “Responsiveness and Technical Quality of Proposal.”

“Bonus Points: Up to ten (10) bonus points are available for the optional regional activities. Evaluation will be based on the breadth, quality and feasibility of the optional activities. “

Section III, Program Description

Sub-Section 3, “Selected References”

Delete “<http://www.info.usaid.gov/zm/index.html> or <http://www.usaid.gov/zm> (after mid/late July 2000) “ as the website listed for the selected references and replace with http://www.usaid.gov/zm/ag_econ/so1_rfa1.htm

Add the Following as Annex 1 to the Program Description

Annex 1

INITIATIVE FOR TRANSBOUNDARY MANAGEMENT of the OKAVANGO/CHOBE/HWANGE/CAPRIVI/MOSI-OA-TUNYA/KAFUE AREA

SO# 3 Increased Regional Cooperation in the Management of Shared Natural Resources

Summary: This annex provides the background, vision and results expected for a Regional Center for Southern Africa (RCSA) transboundary natural resources initiative within the Okavango/Chobe/Hwange/Caprivi/Mosi-oa-Tunya/Kafue Area in Southern Africa. \$1,000,000 is available for supplementary funding of these activities over a three year period, beginning in year 2000. In addition to conducting its own activities, the recipient will be expected to coordinate with an organization (yet to be determined) funded by the RCSA under the Global Conservation Program (GCP) that will also be conducting similar activities in this area. Although the funding for these activities will be provided by the RCSA, oversight will be provided by USAID/Zambia.

I. Overview

The activity solicited in this annex will address economic development and sustainable utilization and management of natural resources within a proposed transboundary natural resources management area (TBNRMA). **A transboundary natural resources management area is a relatively large area, which straddles a frontier between two or more countries and covers a large-scale natural system (ecosystem). The area requires a process of cooperation across boundaries to maximize conservation and sustainable natural resources management to the benefit of the stakeholders.** A TBNRMA can encompass a variety of land tenure arrangements, and may include protected areas or parks, communal areas, privately owned areas, state lands and/or international river basins.

The focus of this activity is the Okavango/Chobe/Hwange/Caprivi/Mosi-oa-Tunya/Kafue area hereafter referred to as the Four Corners TBNRMA. National Parks or Game Reserves within the TBNRMA include the Hwange and Zambezi National Parks in Zimbabwe, the Mosi-Oa-Tunya and Kafue National Parks in Zambia, the Chobe and Moremi National Parks in Botswana. In addition, the TBNRMA includes a number of community-based natural resources areas (conservancies in the Eastern Caprivi, community trusts in Ngamiland and Chobe, and wildlife management areas near Kafue) and their associated ecosystems.

The recipient will provide technical assistance and program support to USAID/RCSA's Strategic Objective #3 (SO3) Program to further cooperation in the management of shared natural resources within the Four Corners TBNRMA area. The recipient will be involved in identifying and implementing options for sustainable management and utilization of the natural resources through a participatory process, fostering community/public/private sector linkages, and furthering international cooperation and agreement among countries in the management of the shared resources.

II. Definition of Shared Natural Resources

“Shared natural resources” means those natural resources that move or extend across national boundaries. This term includes many of the important natural resources in the region. Through our consultation and analysis process, we developed a list of resources that will be the object of our strategy. The RCSA has chosen to focus initially on water (international catchments), migratory wildlife, and the transboundary ecosystems surrounding or encompassing them. All of these resources require international cooperation for their management and thus respond to RCSA’s regional mandate. A discussion of these priority resources follows:

International Water Catchments

Stakeholders consulted during the preparation of USAID’s regional strategy identified water as the single most important natural resource meriting regional cooperation, and one that has a high potential for regional conflict if not addressed adequately. It is also clear that sustainable development in southern Africa hinges on effective water management. Southern Africa is in general a water-scarce region and already countries are making mutually exclusive claims for these waters, the sum of which exceeds the existing flows. RCSA programs will reinforce international cooperation through support to pilot shared natural resources management areas. Multi-disciplinary approaches, including water demand management and realistic pricing policies, will be promoted to resolve competing water demands.

Migratory Wildlife

Wildlife is the basis for the region’s growing tourism industry, and provides income and benefits to rural dwellers and businesses throughout the region. There is potential for southern Africa to capture an even larger share of the global tourism market, but this can only be realized if southern Africa:

- Builds on its extensive network of protected areas and unique natural sites;
- Links its markets to the global tourism markets; and
- Fosters complementary land uses on neighboring communal and private land.

The movement of wildlife across borders, cross-border poaching, and differing wildlife management standards are sources of tension between countries in the region. A large proportion of the region’s wildlife is found in parks situated along international borders, and in many cases their habitat crosses one or more national borders. In the face of growing rural poverty, it is clear that the region’s natural resources will only be managed sustainably if rural populations receive increased benefits from the resources and have a voice in management decisions.

Regional Ecosystems

The ecosystems of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region are diverse and dynamic. Furthermore, these ecosystems often cross or straddle international borders without regard to political jurisdiction. Many of the ecosystems are degraded from over use. The livelihood of the men and women of the region has been, and continues to be, directly tied to the resource base contained in the ecosystems, through primary economic activities involving agriculture, veld products, mining, fisheries, forestry, and wildlife-use practices.

III. Description of Transboundary Area: Chobe/Hwange/Okavango/Chobe/Hwange/Caprivi /Mosi-oa-Tunya/Kafue/Victoria Falls

As noted above, the area of focus for this Program Description is loosely defined as the Okavango/Chobe/Hwange/ Caprivi/Mosi-oa-Tunya/Kafue TBNRMA. This area includes a number of famous national parks and reserves and their associated ecosystems. Wildlife, such as elephants and buffalo, regularly cross the borders within the TBNRMA. Cultural and ethno-linguistic groups also transcend the national boundaries, and these groups regularly interact and mix with their neighbors across the borders. Tourism has been increasing in the region and tourists who come to the TBNRMA regularly visit two or more countries. The TBNRMA has high economic potential related to the unique ecological features and the abundance and variety of wildlife.

Within this designated area there is increasing need to coordinate both 1) the management of the natural resources themselves, e.g. elephants, water, and 2) the regional marketing and promotion strategies for sustainable ecotourism and natural resources products and services.

IV. Activity-level Results for the Four Corners TBNRMA activity

Ecological Activity-Level Results

- Natural Resources Management Plans and/or Monitoring Programs agreed to by two or more countries. (This may include joint or co-management plans, or single resource agreements i.e. fencing agreements, fish net or fishing regulation standardization, collaboration in wildlife surveys or resources monitoring).
- Consultative process in the management of shared natural resources within the TBNRMA
- Ecological monitoring systems, to track change, in place in target communities within the transboundary area.
- Biodiversity and ecosystem integrity addressed in the TBNRMA development planning process.
- Information on conservation, management and sustainable utilization of TBNRM resources exchanged and shared

Socio-economic Activity Level Results

- Tourism potential of the TBNRMA and/or potential to supply other natural resources products/services assessed, developed and promoted.
- Joint standards for classification of natural resources products and services, including tourism and/or destinations, developed and promoted within the TBNRMA, where appropriate. Standards should build upon internationally accepted standards.
- Increased economic and other benefits, such as income and employment, from NRM and sustainable tourism within pilot areas

- Communities involved as stakeholders and as active participants and beneficiaries in the development of the TBNRMA.
- Gender considerations integrated into TBNRMA activities

Policy Activity-level Results

- Natural Resources Management Area Agreement(s) or MOU(s) signed by two or more countries. (Progress in the establishment of TBNRMA agreements will be measured against established milestones as outlined in RCSA's Performance Monitoring Plan (see Annex E); an array of transboundary agreements could be entered into by cooperating countries or entities – these may include formal Protected Areas agreements, Transboundary Parks, formal agreements to cooperate in a specific geographic transboundary area, etc).
- NRM Policy impediments to TBNRMA development identified and removed.
- More streamlined movement of tourists and natural resources products/services facilitated within the TBNRMA

Institutional Activity Level Results

- More community, business, joint venture and/or other private/public sector partnerships established within the transboundary area.